

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for carefully considering this application and for indicating that claims 1-20 contain allowable subject matter. Please consider the application in view of the above amendments intended to overcome the technical objections and to thereby clarify the invention as claimed without narrowing the scope of the claims previously presented and considered to include allowable subject matter.

Specifically applicants have amended claim 6 to clarify the antecedent basis for transition piece 20. Applicants have also amended claims 10, 11, and 17, as requested by the examiner. The amendments to claims 6, 10, 11, and 17 were minor matters of form or grammar and it is submitted did not change the scope of the amended claims.

Applicants have also amended claim 8, as suggested by the examiner to conform to the examiner's construction of claim 8 depending from prior claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7. However, the features of claim 8 might also be more broadly directed to a pump hose separate from the infusion pump of preceding claims. New claims 21 and 22 have been presented that thereby clarifies claims to embodiments of a pump hose that are within the inventive concept yet separate from an infusion pump. New claim 21 includes all the limitations of previously presented claim 8 for the pump hose itself. The new claim 21 is not dependent upon any prior claims and does not include any limitations from such claims. As such new claim 21 does not narrow the scope of prior claim 8. It is deemed that dependent claim 22 provides for an oblique hole (18) that was part of the claims from which claim 8 multiply depended so that no new limitation is included and claim 22 does not narrow the scope more than previously presented claim 8.

Applicants, believe that only those parts of prior arguments directed to the features of the claimed pump hose with transition pieces, and not the arguments regarding the features of the previously claimed infusion pump should be considered for patentability of new claim 21. For example, as the transition piece (15) is part of the claimed pump hose of new claim 21, the arguments considered persuasive regarding the same features of the transition piece (15) might also be considered persuasive as to new claim 21. All of the elements of claim 21 were in the previously presented claim 8 and are supported in the specification and drawings so that no new matter is introduced and it is deemed that no new search should be required. Arguments as to patentability based upon the oblique angle of hole 18 should also be considered regarding patentability of new claim 22.

Favorable action passing all the amended claims 1-20 and new claims 21 and 22 to allowance and issue are respectfully requested.

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below.

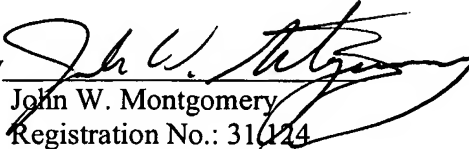
Applicants believe that a fee for two additional claim in excess of 20 total claims and a fee for one new independent claim are due and are provided with this response. However, if any additional fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0591, under Order No. 17128/002001 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments